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KEY TOWN OF LINJU TOTALLY OCCUPIED BY JAPANESE UNITS

Kiahsien, Yuhsien Taken; Tanchuk Bombed; 2,700 Enemy Troops Killed and Captured

By K. SEKIHARA and S. SHINOHARA
Of the Military Press Corps

AT XX ON HONAN FRONT, May 6.—Japanese Units completely occupied Linju, the walled town in Honan Province on the evening of May 3.

After penetrating Kiahsien, vanguard tank units of the Imperial Japanese Forces quickly advanced along the Linju-Kiahsien highway in hot pursuit of the fleeing enemy troops of the 22nd Division and launched a vigorous dawn attack on May 3 against about 8,000 troops of the 117th Division under the command of Liu Man-tien of the Chungking directly-controlled 13th Army defending Linju, 30 kilometers west of Luhsien.

In conjunction with this assault, the main body of the Japanese Units, in a frontal attack from an easterly direction and a part of the units advancing southward, put the enemy to rout at Linju and succeeded in driving a wedge into the enemy defense line.

Linju is a most important point on the second defense line of the enemy troops under Tang En-po's command and had been strongly fortified and was geographically and politically a vital base but which has now fallen into Japanese hands.

Kiahsien Occupied
By T. ISHIZAKI and K. TANIGUCHI
Of the Military Press Corps

AT XX ON HONAN FRONT, May 6.—Part of the crack Japanese Units that succeeded in hoisting the Rising Sun flag at Hsuchang on May 1, totally occupied the walled town of Kiahsien in Honan Province on May 3 with speedy tank columns at the head.

Without pause, the Japanese troops hotly chased the defeated enemy forces in a westerly direction. In cooperation with the Japanese Units that reduced Yuhsien and Jangcheng, other Japanese Units struck Kiahsien, 70 kilometers west of Hsuchang and on May 3 occupied the walled town of Kiahsien which was desperately defended by a part of the enemy's 22nd Division.

With tank units in the van, the Japanese troops that reduced Kiahsien are now continuing their advance smashing enemy troop concentrations around Kiahsien.

Composite Results Given
By T. FUJITA, D. UNNO and O. AKATANI
Of the Military Press Corps

HONAN FRONT, May 5.—In defiance of the 30,000 enemy troops of the 91st and 193rd Divisions of the Chungking 29th Army and the 20th Division under the direct command of the 31st Army corps, the Japanese Forces closed in on Yuhsien, 70 kilometers southwest of Chengchow on May 3 and after attacking 8,000 enemy troops defending the outer positions of the citadel, penetrated into a part of the walled city of Yuhsien toward evening the same day and completely occupied it yesterday morning. The Japanese Units are giving hot pursuit to the enemy remnants.

Composite war results so far confirmed are as follows:

Enemy dead picked up by the Japanese	2,400
War prisoners	300
War trophies:	
Trench-mortars	12
Rapid firing guns	11
Heavy machine-guns	4
Light machine-guns	46
Rifles	468

Moreover, Japanese Units shot down two P-40's, of which one is unconfirmed.

Tanchuk Airfield Raided
Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE, May 6.—Japanese Army Dive Bombers yesterday again surprise-attacked the enemy airfield at Tanchuk in Kwangsi Province, the advance base of the United States air force in China and heavily blasted military installations there.

In the course of this attack, no enemy planes nor anti-aircraft batteries responded and all the Japanese airmen returned triumphantly.

Nippon Army Airmen Bomb Nami Airfield, Damaging 17 Aircraft

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN INDIA, May 5.—A powerful formation of crack Japanese Army Units in the Burma area yesterday morning attacked the airfield of the enemy air force at Nami. Effecting repeated bombing and strafing attacks against the enemy troops who were thrown into utter confusion by our surprise raid, our Army Wild Eagles damaged a total of 17 parked enemy aircraft including six Douglas DC-3 transport planes and 11 large gliders of which three Douglas planes were set ablaze. In addition, the Japanese attackers blew up about 100 enemy troops and blasted a warehouse on the airfield. After smashing the airfield's military establishment all the Japanese planes returned safely.

BRITISH 4TH CORPS IN GRAVE POSITION

On Final Line of Resistance In Palel Sector of the Imphal Basin

By S. NAKAJIMA
Of the Military Press Corps

ON THE INDIAN FRONT, May 5.—The British 4th Corps, completely surrounded by the Japanese Forces, are now facing a grave situation on the final line of resistance between Palel and XX in the southern sector of the Imphal basin.

Aid from Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten in Ceylon not forthcoming due to the internal unrest in India, the Anglo-American leaders have dispatched the 5th Division troops and others which had taken part in action of Akyab by air in response to the urgent request of the trapped 4th Corps.

Completely surrounded in a Japanese ring of steel, the Indian troops which had been forced to fight on the first firing line from the second line of defense, are now said to have lost their fighting spirit upon seeing the advance of the Indian National Army.

Deeply concerned over the fear that their Indian troops might join the Azad Hind Army, the headquarters of the 4th Corps is now attempting to transfer these soldiers to Calcutta and replace them with African troops in the Imphal basin and Kohima front.

Difficulties Admitted
Domei

CANTON, May 5.—The tremendous difficulties facing anti-Axis military operations in the Pacific war theaters, particularly the counter-offensive for the recapture of Burma, were admitted by Lieutenant-General Joseph Stilwell, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army forces in China and India, in a statement issued on the occasion of the second-year anniversary of the organization of the United States Army in East Asia, according to a Chungking radio intercepted here.

Admitting that anti-Axis military operations in Northern Burma were greatly handicapped by geographical factors, Stilwell declared that another factor which must be taken into consideration is the tremendous fighting power of the Japanese Army.

He added, "Our path is full of difficulties and our goal is still a long way off."

Stilwell concluded that the headquarters of the anti-Axis Forces in East Asia is refraining from making any announcement concerning military operations in this sector because such an announcement may reveal military secrets which may prove of value to the Japanese Forces.

SOVIETS AGAINST MOVE

Will Oppose Polish Regime From Returning to Occupied Areas

Special

LISBON, May 5.—The Soviet Government will oppose any attempt by the Polish regime in exile in London to return to the territories of Poland occupied by the Soviet army, the New York Times, London correspondent reported today.

According to the correspondent, Moscow does not intend to consult the Polish regime in London in the event the Soviet army succeeded in entering the Polish territory east of the so-called Curzon Line, which the Soviets several months ago proposed as a boundary line in the dispute with the Polish emigrant Government.

LISBON GOVERNMENT REPORTEDLY SPURNS ANGLO-U.S. DEMANDS

Trade Pact Just as Important As Political Pact, Says Reply —Enemies Confer

Special

STOCKHOLM, May 5.—Urgent negotiations took place between the British and United States Governments Wednesday evening over Portugal's refusal to suspend wolfram exports to Germany, according to a Washington dispatch to the Swedish newspaper Aftonbladet.

The dispatch said that Portugal, in turning down the Anglo-American demand, stated that trade agreements are just as important as political agreements.

Hoare Returning Home
Special

LISBON, May 5.—Sir Samuel Hoare, British Ambassador to Madrid, arrived here and is staying at the British Embassy. He is expected to fly to London on Saturday.

Meanwhile, a dispatch from Madrid said that Sir Samuel Hoare had intimated before leaving that he probably will not return to his post.

In this connection, observers say that Hoare, thus, would stay in Britain even though Prime Minister Winston Churchill did not want him there.

Pointing out that Hoare was the man who succeeded in bringing Britain into closer contact with Spain, observers said that Hoare's intimation plus the statement in the House of Commons that the new agreement between Spain and Britain had not lessened British enmity against Spain reflects the intransigent British attitude toward Franco.

TURKS REFUSE PROPOSAL BY U.S. TO DEVELOP OIL

Domei

STOCKHOLM, May 5.—The Turkish Government has refused the proposals recently made by the United States for the development of oil resources in Turkey by American capital, according to an Ankara report to the Swedish paper, Nya Dagligt Allehanda, today.

The American proposals to the Ankara Government are reported to consist of:

"1. American oil companies to obtain the rights to develop the oil fields in Turkish territory for a period of 99 years.

"2. The oil obtained to be divided 50-50 between the United States and Turkey.

"3. Oil pipe lines to be built from the oil-producing areas to the Mediterranean by American capital."

EMERGENCY BILL DRAFTED

Introduced in Parliament by Iran Interior Minister

Special

LISBON, May 5.—A draft bill which provides that a state of emergency can be declared for the whole country was introduced to Parliament by the Iran Minister of the Interior today, according to an Istanbul dispatch.

This draft measure is based on the assumption that Iran is at war and for which the sternest protective measures must be taken, according to a Teheran report.

The draft is composed of three paragraphs: first, all civil servants and Government employes to be put under military control; secondly, military control to be extended to all State-owned and private enterprises; and thirdly, Government and occupation forces will be authorized to intern all undesirable persons for the duration of the war.

PRESS HITS SOVIET ENVOY

U.S. Paper Charges Oumansky With Propaganda Activities

Special

LISBON, May 5.—An article in the Washington Star charged that Soviet Ambassador Constantine Oumansky to Mexico is engaged in propaganda activities and maintaining an unusually large staff, according to a Washington report.

The article said that Ambassador Oumansky finances the activities of South American labor organizations and also declared that he was sent to strategically-important Mexico City from where he is able to control the threads of the entire Soviet propaganda machinery both in North and South America.

Britain's Insincere Actions Rapped By Newspaper in Kiangsi Province

Chien Hsien Jih Pao Asserts Establishment of Mountbatten's Headquarters Is Move to Mollify Complaints Against British

Special to the Nippon Times

SHANGHAI, May 5.—The Chien Hsien Jih Pao (Front Daily News), published in Kiangsi Province, contains an editorial in which it condemns Britain's insincere actions in East Asia. Furthermore, it speaks out in plain language in criticism of the retardation of British influence in East Asia.

The tone of the article is sufficient proof of the extent of the aggravation of Chungking's attitude towards Britain.

The gist of the article follows:

"It was in the fall of last year that U.S. Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox proposed that Britain should occupy herself in East Asia and America with the European war. Now, more than half a year has elapsed since the Knox proposal was presented.

"In the European theater of war, America is intending to undertake the opening of a second front which will extend from North Africa to Italy. The situation is by far more strained than it was prior to 1943.

"On the other hand, what about Britain's efforts in the Far Eastern theater of war? Before the presentation of Knox's proposal on March 2, 1943, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill in a radio broadcast made a statement to the effect that following the conclusion of the war in the West, Britain would gradually regain her former position in the world. These words caused great misgivings on the part of various Pacific countries, especially America.

"After the Knox statement, British Home Secretary Herbert Morrison made an announcement on the British offensive operations. In those days repeated conferences were held between the leaders of Britain and America, resulting in the establishment of headquarters in southeast Asia under the command of Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten.

"This establishment of headquarters in southeast Asia had a tremendous influence on the various Pacific countries while it caused a great stir within the countries directly concerned. Although half a year has since elapsed, Britain's activity in East Asia continues to be such as to cause us great disappointment.

"The American people have recently been making complaints on Mountbatten's actions, and according to reports a discord has arisen between Mountbatten and Lieutenant-General Joseph Stilwell, Deputy Commander of the anti-Axis Forces in Southeast Asia. This is but one illustration of the reaction produced by British activity in East Asia.

"Why did Mountbatten keep his troops in idleness without a sign of activity while General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis Forces in Southwest Pacific, and Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet, were engaged in action on the Pacific? General observers opined that the strength of the British Navy in the Indian Ocean was found to be far from encouraging.

"At the time of Italy's surrender last fall, Britain boastingly stated that she would greatly enhance the anti-Axis fighting power in the Far East by sending out the Mediterranean Fleet. That nothing came out of the talk was not wholly due to Mountbatten's failure to act quickly. The real cause was that in essentials the Far Eastern strategies of Britain and America were at the parting of the ways.

"The establishment of headquarters in southeast Asia was nothing more than a political move. The recovery of the Burma route was no more than a cry of encouragement, which is proved by the fact that in the days before the war, only about 8,000 to 10,000 tons of goods were transported over the route monthly. How, then, with its limited transport capacity, could the route be depended upon to satisfy the requirements of the large Chungking army whose field of action was as wide as China itself?

"Britain was supposed to be thoroughly aware of all this. The establishment of headquarters in southeast Asia was, therefore, but another shrewd move on the part of the London authorities.

"The dry season in southern Asia will be over very shortly. Already there is a stir of spring in the air in the south. A whole year has been wasted by Britain. There is no disputing the accuracy of the report that the First Lord of the Admiralty, Albert Alexander, is the butt of popular criticism.

"The words 'it is most ardently hoped that the British Navy will make a great contribution to the war effort when it comes to a final blow with Japan' explain nothing but Britain's 'resolution' to embark on operations against Japan, which 'resolution' has repeatedly been guaranteed by Clement Atlee, Deputy Prime Minister of Britain and others. Has the expression of this 'resolution' accomplished anything in actuality?

"Today Britain is attaching great importance on India as a country on which it must rely in East Asia. The security and defense of India must have been the principal consideration behind the establishment of the headquarters in East Asia. However, if Britain seeks nothing beyond the security of India, there is no need for her to hurry along offensive operations.

"A comparison has been made by some between the activity of the anti-Axis headquarters in southeast Asia and that of Britain on the Western Front. It is maintained that in the latter case, stress is being placed on the defense of London with a view to facilitating the work of establishing a dominion on the European continent after the war, and that behind the former there is a desire to safeguard India and thus gain the confidence of the Indian and Chinese peoples.

"We are reluctant to share this view. The times advance, and the ideas of the people of the British Empire without doubt have fallen into senile decay. Each time they receive a lesson in blood, the national feeling of the Indian people increases. Even the native inhabitants of outlying districts in the southern regions have come to know what should be the order of the world in the future and what their life should really be. One must take action if one is to achieve results. One's-self is the most reliable thing in the world.

"The thing we hope for from the people of China is that they will endeavor to gain the best results from their efforts. There is no need for them to wait for others, nor is there any need for them to rely upon others."

GANDHI RELEASED FROM POONA PRISON

Action Finally Taken by British In View of Physician's Report on His Health

Domei

LISBON, May 6.—The Indian Government released Mahatma Gandhi from Poona Prison, according to Bombay reports.

Decision Is Announced
Domei

STOCKHOLM, May 6.—The India Office announced after midnight, May 5, as follows, according to London reports:

"According to the physicians' report respecting the health of Mahatma Gandhi, the Indian Government has decided to release him unconditionally. This decision is entirely based on medical grounds."

Release Is Reported
Special

LISBON, May 6.—The "unconditional" release of Mahatma Gandhi in view of the medical reports of his health was revealed in an urgent London dispatch which quoted the India Office announcement issued early this morning, which stated that the Government of India has decided to release Mahatma Gandhi unconditionally.

The announcement said that the decision had been taken solely on medical grounds. The release is scheduled for 8 a.m. today.

Recent dispatches from Bombay had revealed that Gandhi had failed to recover from the recent attack of malaria and his condition had been a source of worry to the British authorities.

SERIOUS FOOD CRISIS THREATENS AMERICA AS PRODUCTION LAGS

Mismanagement by Roosevelt Clique Blamed—Vast Amounts Being Wasted by Military

Special

LISBON, May 5.—The United States—granary for the anti-Axis nations—faces a food crisis today with various rations being further cut down owing to the acute shortage of beef, wheat, potatoes, milk and poultry, according to dispatches from New York.

The 1943 farm season, it is said, ended in failure with bad Spring weather delaying the planting and a devastating deluge which swept the Middle West destroying millions of acres of crops. The American granary had been already exhausted last Summer with the wheat crop lower than 40 per cent of the normal output. The United States, at present, is importing wheat from Canada but the supply held by her northern neighbor cannot last long, the dispatches said. It was also stated that a flood is still raging today in the Mississippi River area causing more destruction to vast areas of various vital crops and bringing more headaches to the food administrators.

Food Crisis Nearing

Unless the Government steps in immediately with a more effective policy to solve the present situation the whole country will face the peak in the food crisis within this year, say the experts. They blame the inefficient farm policy of President Roosevelt, Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wichard and the men about them in food administration responsible for domestic food security, for the present sorry plight. The administration simply neglected to take adequate steps and allowed the desperate situation to continue until the end of April last year.

The compulsory drafting of farm labor by the selective service was another factor in the dislocation of the food increase plan. Hundreds of thousands of acres of potatoes, corn and soy beans rotted in the fields because of the lack of farm hands as well as farm machinery. Today, the War Production Board controls all machinery, cutting down the output to 23 per cent of the normal production. In Colorado, the Governor intervened in order to prevent the further drafting of skilled farm labor by the selective service. The situation became so bad that most of the Governors of the 48 States met to formulate a protest. Dispatches reported that they even threatened the administration at Washington by working out plans of their own to solve the food problem.

The lack of soy beans, wheat and corn have naturally cut down the dairy products. Many dairies, moreover, have gone out of business because the cereals to feed the stock could not be obtained. This is the reason for the present acute shortage of milk and meat in the United States. Ineffective price ceilings ordered by the OPA has caused the United States to lose millions of pounds of beef, the reports said. It is said that in cattle-raising areas the price of live cattle rose above the price of processed meat and thus, the packing houses are hesitating to increase production.

Army Wasting Foodstuffs

Hit by ceiling prices, food production centers in the Middle West have been forced to sell their farms. "Farm for Sale" signs are increasing daily.

The dispatches went on to say that eight per cent or more of the American food is being sent to foreign countries under the Lend-Lease Act, another 27 per cent is being consumed by the army and 20 per cent more wasted in military camps all over the country according to investigations carried out by the Truman Senate Committee. However, the people are being kept ignorant of the fact that over 500 gallons of tomato juice had been emptied by the army into Lake Erie, near Cleveland, because it had spoiled. The public does not know about the large part of the wheat stored in granaries being destroyed by mildew and weevil through neglect. The average American also does not know that the bread-basket area of the Middle West now shows a tremendous decrease of acreage under cultivation.

The Department of Agriculture recently announced the increase of 10,000,000 acres over that under cultivation last year but agricultural experts have no idea where this vast acreage is coming from.

His Majesty Sends Messenger to Home Of Fleet-Admiral

His Majesty the Emperor was gracious enough to dispatch Chamberlain Viscount Sadaaki Makino to the residence of Fleet Admiral Mineichi Koga, the late Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet whose death at his post was announced on Friday, at Kogai-cho, Azabu-ku, at 3 p.m. Saturday to convey His condolences to the bereaved family members of the late Fleet-Admiral. Their Majesties the Empress and Empress Dowager were also pleased to send messengers of condolence to the naval hero's home at 3:15 and 3:30 p.m. respectively.

MYSTERY ENVELOPS POSITION OF SOONG

Important Issues of Chungking's Foreign, Financial Policies May Be Involved

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, May 5.—Something of mystery has developed over the position of Chungking's Foreign Minister T. V. Soong, which may prove to involve important issues of the regime's foreign and financial policies, reports the diplomatic correspondent of the Observer.

The correspondent continues as follows:

Recently Soong was succeeded as chairman of the Bank of China by H. H. Kung, who has long been Finance Minister. This change might have been interpreted merely as a step to leave Soong freer to give his full attention to foreign affairs and to consolidate Dr. Kung's control over China's financial affairs, which have become quite chaotic.

That explanation is not wholly convincing, however, in view of the fact that in the past few months little has been heard in China about Soong. He did not attend the Cairo Conference although he has excellent command of English and Chiang Kai-shek speaks no English. Soong has a reputation of being China's ablest financier and a man of strong convictions.

Indeed, he is said to be the only member of the present government who can and does "stand up to" the Generalissimo. Consequently, it is not surprising that rumors are now current in semi-official circles in Chungking that serious differences of policy developed between Chiang and Soong, and the latter may shortly be replaced as Foreign Minister probably by Wei.

Opposed on Two Issues

In certain circles Soong is said to be opposed to Chiang on two vital issues, the policy of uncontrolled inflation and the policy of strengthening Chinese control over outlying territories. Inflation has been carried so far that many observers concluded that the Chiang Regime is deliberately destroying the present currency system in China.

A surprising feature of this situation is this: Inflation has been allowed to create the greatest hardships for the very people on whom the Generalissimo must rely both in his fight against the Japanese and later on in his projected plans for the creation of a modern industrialized state. The burden has been the heaviest on civil servants, teachers, doctors, etc. and on soldiers whose cash allowance now buys less than one-thirtieth of what it did in 1937.

There has been much evidence of the official policy of strengthening Chinese authority in such outlying regions as Tibet and Sinkiang. Relations with outside powers, especially with Russia in the northwest are clearly involved. The Chinese post office is in the act of taking over the postal service in Tibet, Chinese immigrants are being sent into both of these provinces and much is being done under the auspices of the Chungking Government to survey and develop their resources. China is now entering a period when many delicate issues of foreign and financial policy will have to be faced.

Premier Fraser Gloomy

Special

LISBON, May 5.—Peter Fraser, Prime Minister of New Zealand, now attending the British Empire Conference in London told a press conference today that unless "the great blow" planned against Germany materialized "we must set our teeth and start over again" against Japan, according to a London report.

GREAT NAVAL HERO IS RETURNING TODAY IN SILENT TRIUMPH

High Officials to Meet Remains of Late Fleet-Admiral Koga

The remains of Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, the late Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet who died in the line of duty on the Southern Front, will arrive at Tokyo Station at 11:13 a.m. today in a special train, borne by Commander Kazuo Toi, it was learned on Saturday.

An Imperial Messenger specially dispatched by His Majesty the Emperor, messengers from Imperial Princes, Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo, Navy Minister Admiral Shigetaro Shimada, Fleet-Admiral Osami Nagano, officers and officials concerned and the bereaved family members will meet the relics of the great naval hero at the station.

With Captain Ichiro Yokoyama, senior adjutant of the Navy Ministry, leading the way, the remains of the late Fleet-Admiral carried in an automobile dispatched by the Navy Ministry will be borne to the hero's residence at No. 79 Kogai-cho, Azabu-ku, through Hibiya, Toranomon, Tameike and Kasumicho.

Manchou Emperor Wires
Domei

HSINKING, May 5.—His Majesty the Emperor of Manchoukuo today dispatched a telegram of condolence to His Majesty the Emperor of Japan on the death of Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet of the Imperial Navy.

Tu Expresses Condolences
Domei

PEKING, May 5.—Tu Hsi-chun, director of the Huanching General Office, representing Wang Keh-min, chairman of the North China Political Affairs Commission, called at the Japanese Naval Officers' Office at 4 p.m. today, and expressed sincere condolence on the death of Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet of the Japanese Navy.

Mourned in Reich
Domei

BERLIN, May 5.—All Germany manifested profound mourning over the death of the late Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet, and the Fuehrer's Headquarters today included a special message in the day's radio program. The evening papers today gave much prominence to the news and conveyed the heartfelt condolences of the German people to the Japanese nation.

It is recalled that the German people had been greatly moved by the gallant death of the late Fleet-Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto and the Fuehrer had posthumously conferred upon him the Order of the Iron Cross with Oak Leaves and Sword.

The people of Germany have been deeply impressed by the traditional spirit of the Japanese Navy which would have the supreme commander of the Combined Fleet take command on the first line in person. Pledged as they have to fight shoulder to shoulder with Japan until the common enemies, the United States and Britain, are defeated, they well understand the fiery warriors' spirit of fighting to the last breath and are expressing much admiration for the unmatchable loyalty and patriotism of the Japanese. They are sure that the death of the late Fleet-Admiral would only enhance the unquenchable fighting spirit of the Japanese.

They are also expressing every confidence in the ability of Admiral Soemu Toyoda, the late Fleet-Admiral's successor, to lead the Combined Fleet onward to unfailing victory. The strategic solidity of Japan in the Pacific will all the more be strengthened under his command, German naval quarters are saying.

Bennett on Air Now

Domei

LISBON, May 5.—Lieutenant-General Henry Gordon Bennett, former commander of the Australian army in Malai whose shameful desertion from Malai, leaving his men behind, had won him widespread notoriety and who recently retired from active service, has been employed in the Australian Broadcasting Corporation as a military commentator, according to a Sydney dispatch to the Times, London, today.

Press Comments

Saturday, May 6

FLEET ADMIRAL KOGA: A TR[illegible]

AGAIN—the announcement of the death of Admiral Mineichi Koga, Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet, in the midst of this decisive war has stirred the people of this country to the bottom of their hearts. Only last year, in April, we received the news of Fleet Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, then Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet, having been killed in action and now we are told that his successor has also died at his post on the first line. We are thus led to feel the stringency and grimness of the war we are fighting. But the feeling that surges through us the next moment is a burning hostility against the enemy, the rousing of our fighting spirit that will not abate until the enemy is destroyed. The death of the late Fleet Admiral Koga is a fact which fills us with grief but the thought of it strengthens our resolve to crush the enemy, come what may, inspired by his sublime sense of loyalty and duty.

His Majesty the Emperor has graciously elevated the late Admiral to the Board of Field-Marshals and Fleet-Admirals and accorded him the title of Fleet Admiral, conferring upon him, besides, the First Class Order of the Golden Kite and the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun with Paulownia Flowers. The infinity of the Imperial Benevolence moves us to the depth of our souls. The late Fleet Admiral found the best possible place of death as a fighting man, and, upon his death, he has been granted supreme honors that a fighting man may receive in this country. He must be well content.

The late Fleet Admiral was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet in April last year in succession to the late Fleet Admiral Yamamoto. In response to the profound trust reposed upon him in this way by His Imperial Majesty, he worked hard at his tasks day and night directing the naval operations over the vast Pacific. The counter-offensive of the United States in this theater of war was just then growing fiercer. She was operating a campaign of island-to-island advance, with a speed not to be despised. It was a series of the most terrific encounters that the late Fleet Admiral supervised. Confident and composed, he shattered the enemy force wherever he found it and manifested the traditional spirit of the Imperial Navy to the full, maintaining the strategic advantages that we had secured in the initial stage of the war. As the circumstances of his death reveal, the late Fleet Admiral was taking command of his forces in person on the very first line when he met death in performance of his duties. The hardships he must have endured and the trials he must have surmounted are beyond our imagination. His death will inspire the generations to come as an example of what a naval commander should be.

As his successor, Admiral Soemu Toyoda has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet. Inasmuch as the Imperial Navy is filled with commanding officers of the highest quality, it would not have been a very difficult task to choose a successor but the reputation the new Commander-in-Chief enjoys is such that a brilliant future is promised for the unbeaten and unbeatable Imperial Navy. The people have every confidence in the new head of the Combined Fleet.

If anything, the War of Greater East Asia is showing more and more its decisive nature on all fronts. Intense campaigns are now in full swing in the Pacific, Indo-Burmese border region and China. The rise or fall of Japan may well be decided this year. The 100,000,000 people, advancing over the bodies of the late Fleet Admirals Yamamoto and Koga and inheriting their sublime fighting spirit, will march on unflinchingly, come what may, toward final victory.

GERMAN DEFENSE OF EUROPE COMPLETE

TOKYO SHIMBUN—On many occasions, to date, the German military authorities have expressed firm assurance that their defense of Europe has reached a state of water-tight perfection. That should the Anglo-American forces attempt to invade the Continent, they would smash them beyond recognition. The intensified air combat in European skies and the general tension in the war areas suggest the coming of a decisive phase before long.

The United States and Britain are taking pains to create the impression that they are preparing to imminently attempt to form the second front, by way of a nerve warfare. But the more frenzy they betray the greater has been their losses in the air. The first prerequisite to any successful landing on the Continent is to break the fighting strength of the Germans and thus the Anglo-American war leaders are anxiously waiting for a reduction in their fighting strength.

Yet, in air combats, the field in which the Anglo-American forces are most hopeful of success, the Luftwaffe has taken a toll, since April 1 until April 10, totaling 1,126 four-motored heavy bombers with their numerous crews. Thus, if there is any change to be noted in the comparative strengths of the contending forces, it is the steady decline in the Anglo-American air strength that is conspicuous. The severe air losses suffered by their forces show that the United States and Britain had miscalculated the iron defense of the Luftwaffe and the solid morale of the German people. It is to be imagined that the Anglo-American war leaders in their frenzied impatience will be compelled to pay more and more in airmen and aircraft. The Germans are not only manifesting superb defense by air but in all other fields.

In the Balkans, for instance, which presumably are one of the vital campaign objectives of the United States and Britain, the Germans are steadily mopping up the partisan elements commanded by General "Tito" and the guerilla units are being fast paralyzed. The attempted invasion of the Aegean Islands is also ending in utter failure, as the Anglo-American camp is too well aware. Moreover, the activities of the German submarines, whose menace had been claimed by Anglo-American propaganda to have been reduced, have lately greatly gained in vigor. In the past eight months they have sunk 155 anti-Axis war ships, thus proving that their menace remains as real as ever.

All these facts, so unwelcome to the Americans and British, are so many proofs that time is on the side of the Germans. The steady perfection of the German defense of Europe in the face of the impending decisive operations is making it more and more certain that the role marked out for the United States and Britain is that of principals in a tragedy.

PRESS STRESSES BERNE MUST REMAIN NEUTRAL

Editor of New Berne States Invasion Would Only Worsen Economic Situation

Special

LISBON, May 5.—Switzerland must assert its neutrality in any event, the editor of the paper, "New Berne," writes today in commenting on the reaction of the continental invasion of Switzerland, according to a Berne report.

He said that Switzerland would be most gravely affected regardless of where the invasion might take place and asserted that there are no grounds for carelessness but also none for undue apprehensions.

"The first effect of an invasion," the editor continues, "would be a more difficult economic situation for the country, but there would also be military reactions especially if big battles should occur in the south for then the belligerents might wish to make use of the Swiss masses."

The foremost duty of Switzerland must then be to assert its neutrality, he stressed.

CHINA, MANCHOU FIRMS TO DEVELOP FARMLAND

Joint Financing of Project in Pinkiang Province Reached During Tsushima's Visit

Domei

PEKING, May 4.—A large farm belonging to the Manchuria Development Corporation at Kuohouchi, Pinkiang Province, will be developed through the joint financing of the North China Development Corporation and the Manchuria Industrial Development Corporation.

This marks the first step toward stronger collaboration between the two concerns in accordance with the decision reached at the conference of leaders of the two concerns during the recent visit in Manchoukuo by Juichi Tsushima, President of the North China Development Corporation.

According to the plans, the Manchoukuo Industrial Development Corporation will furnish raw materials as well as technical facilities necessary for developing farmland.

The North China Development Corporation, meanwhile, will deliver the necessary iron ore and coal to the Manchuria Industrial Development Corporation and the former will station a supervisor in Hsinking. In addition, three agricultural experts will be dispatched to the farms by the North China Development Corporation to assist the development of operations.

FOE LEADER TO DIE FOR HONAN DEFEAT

Tang, Ired by Debacle, Orders Death of General Wang—Vaunted Defenses Shattered

By G. FUJITA
Of the Military Press Corps

HONAN FRONT, May 5.—Angered by the decisive defeat of the 28th Army Corps under General Li Hsien-chow, which had been ordered to defend Chengchow, Hsincheng and Hsuchang at all cost, and which is still continuing its headlong flight before the determined advance of the Japanese Forces, General Tang En-po has ordered that General Wang-pu, who was directly responsible for the defense of positions in front of Pawang-cheng, be shot to death. Also affected by the move to maintain discipline and fighting spirit, are several other high officers who were given severe penalties by the irate commander-in-chief of the Chungking forces in that area.

Tang's Plans Smashed
By D. UNNO and M. TANIGUCHI
Of the Military Press Corps

HONAN FRONT, May 5.—The defense plan of General Tang En-po in the Mihsien and Fanshui area, with the 28th Army Corps under the command of General Li Hsien-chow as the Southern Army and the 31st Army Corps under General Wang Chung-lien as the Northern Army, was completely smashed in the Hsuchang battle which resulted in the enemy's complete defeat due to the skilfull strategy of the Japanese Forces. Thus, the present Honan campaign has entered its second stage.

The enemy forces that barely escaped annihilation are now attempting desperate defense by forming a new line at the base of the Funiu mountain range, occupied by the newly-formed three divisions of the 29th Army under General Ma Li-wu, replacing the 20th Division under General Liu-tan and the 117th Division under General Liu Wan-tien. General Chiang Ting-wen, commander-in-chief of the First War Zone, has formed a surveillance corps and dispatched it to the front.

But, despite all these defense measures, the enemy strongholds at Wuhsien, Linju, Tsaihsien, and Hsianghsien which were constructed after many years' efforts are falling one by one, and the Honan defense line, of which they had so proudly boasted, has now been thoroughly shattered.

2,432 Enemy Killed
By G. FUJITA
Of the Military Press Corps

HONAN FRONT, May 5.—The results obtained by the Japanese Forces in the Hsuchang campaign in which the newly formed 29th Division of the enemy was completely beaten are as follows:

Bodies left by the enemy, 2,432; war prisoners taken, 858; principal spoils taken, four rapid-firing guns, five trench mortars, seven heavy machine guns, 36 light machine guns, 1,146 rifles, and many other equipment and supplies.

Drive Upsets Chungking
By T. KAMBARA, D. UNNO and N. TANIGUCHI
Of the Military Press Corps

HONAN FRONT, May 4.—The sweeping Japanese advance into Honan has apparently caused considerable commotion in Chungking military circles. According to a Chungking prisoner, recently captured by the Japanese Forces, the Chungking Military Council has been holding daily emergency meetings, since the commencement of the Honan operations, to confer on countermeasures against the Japanese advance.

The political administrative department in the first war zone has requested the people in the rear to cooperate with the soldiers on the front lines. Various cooperative bodies have been organized and Chiang Kai-shek has issued strict orders that their positions must be defended at all cost.

Chang Chih-chung, head of the Political Department, has sent words of encouragement and exhortation to Chiang Ting-wen, Commander of the First War Zone. Women, children and the aged have been ordered to evacuate from Loyang. However, orders prohibiting the carrying out of food from the city has tended to increase the general confusion. Several of the Loyang vernaculars have been forced to suspend publication.

Chungking Seen Worried
Domei

LISBON, May 3.—Pointing to the considerable number of troops that have reinforced the Japanese in their latest operations in Hunan Province, the Chungking military spokesman has expressed deep anxiety over developments, according to information from Chungking.

All reports emanating from Chungking say that powerful reinforcements are being stationed in the rear of the Japanese foremost firing lines in the present campaign and add that speculation is rife in the Chiang capital as to the purpose of the latest Japanese move.

The reports also indicate that the Japanese Units which occupied Hsuchow, strategic key point on the Peking-Hankow Railway line, 80 kilometers south of Chengchow, are now engaged in severe fighting with the Chungking forces outside the southern entrance to the citadal.

The war communique issued by the Chungking forces today states that the Japanese Forces which occupied Chengyangkwan and Yingshang in Northern Anhwei Province have advanced farther to the northwest of the same province.

Chungking military authorities are of the opinion that the recent Japanese move in the vicinity of Chengchow constitutes a direct threat to Loyang, about 100 kilometers west of Chengchow. These authorities are reported to have pointed out that it also presents a serious menace to the capital of the Chiang regime which is located about 900 kilometers southwest of Loyang.

Chiang's Book Scored By Manchester Press As Degrading Britain

Special

LISBON, May 5.—Criticisms of Chiang Kai-shek's book, "China's Destiny," continue in Britain, according to a London dispatch. The Manchester Guardian, for instance, in an editorial declared, "It is somewhat ironical that on the very day the British Government announces a loan to Chungking, a question should be asked in Parliament whether Chiang Kai-shek's book, 'China's Destiny,' could be placed in the House of Commons library." The editorial said that the book has been much criticized in Britain as "disparaging to Britain and hoped that the help Chungking received and is likely to receive from Britain may "induce Chiang Kai-shek to withdraw the offending observations from any future editions."

HUNGARY REPULSES ENEMY ATTACKERS

Buildings in Budapest Hit in Nocturnal Raids; Raiders Flee in 2 Directions

Special

LISBON, May 5.—Reporting on the anti-Axis air raid on Budapest carried out on Thursday night to Friday, an official communique from the Hungarian capital said that late last night, numerous enemy planes flying singly approached the country from the southwest, crossing the country and disappeared northward having only a nuisance character.

Meanwhile, larger enemy formations approached the border from the south and attacked the capital from various directions. Attacks carried out during the night caused fires and damaged buildings in several places in the capital.

Hungarian fighters engaged the enemy in dogfights and anti-aircraft guns went into action effectively. Early this morning, the enemy planes left the country toward the northern border and others flew out across the southern border.

More Reinforcements Sent
Special

STOCKHOLM, May 5.—Reinforcements of 20,000 German soldiers have been dispatched to Denmark and 30,000 to Norway, according to reports quoted by the paper, Ailehanda, today.

Many crack troops are said to be included in the reinforcements, while Reich General Eduard Dietl's divisions in northern Finland have been partly replaced and partly reinforced, these reports added.

Tank Barriers Placed
Special

BERLIN, May 5.—Indicating the absolute preparedness of Germany for the much vaunted Anglo-American invasion of western Europe, the German illustrated weekly, 'Berliner Illustrirte Zeitung,' today published a picture showing bits of queerly twisted iron rising from the water.

It explained that they will prepare an unpleasant welcome for any enemy tanks or "ducks" trying to reach the beach. Commenting that these tank barriers are already out at sea at the channel coast, the weekly said that they would certainly do great harm to trucks and bottoms of landing crafts.

Meanwhile, it was announced that Field-Marshal Erwin Rommel recently arrived at the Mediterranean coast to inspect the Axis coastal fortifications.

YANKS DISCUSSING BRITISH INTERNEES

Commons to Debate Requests By 8,000 Political Prisoners To Take Part in Invasion

Special

GENEVA, May 4.—Reports reaching here disclose that political circles in Washington have been carrying on lively discussions on news from London which said that numerous motions by political prisoners in Britain will be dealt with in a secret session in the House of Commons in the near future. The prisoners have asked for permission to participate in the invasion of Europe. Most of these prisoners, numbering some 8,000, have been interned in concentration camps since as early as the beginning of the war for political activity which rendered them suspicious in the eyes of the authorities.

Observers here are of the opinion that the total number of political prisoners in Britain is more than 30,000, consisting of various groups. Some are adherents of Sir Oswald Mosley and other Fascist groups, some are conscientious objectors, some are former members of Anglo-German societies and some are anti-Semites. Washington reports said that political circles there did not attach major importance to the news of the prisoners' petition in view of the risk which the impending military operations involve and with the chances of success considered fifty-fifty. They considered the majority of the motions a mere pretext to evade the unbearable conditions in the overcrowded concentration camps. They pointed out that though Herbert Morrison, British Home Secretary, decreed a few releases some months ago, the concentration camps were becoming more and more overcrowded since all Britons uttering doubts as to the establishment of the second front have lately been rigorously arrested.

YUGOSLAVS LOSE FAITH IN GEN. MIKHAILOVITCH

Prime Minister in Difficulty Due To Lack of Arms and Ammunition

In regard to recent conditions in Yugoslavia, a certain neutral, who lately returned from the Balkans, stated as follows, according to a Zurich dispatch to Yomiuri.

"The people of Yugoslavia still have great faith in the former Yugoslavian King Peter II. His marriage with the Greek Princess is regarded by the nation as a guarantee that Yugoslavia will be able to receive stronger British protection after the war. In contrast to this, the Yugoslavians have lost all faith in Prime Minister General Draja Sroj Mikhailovitch who is facing an extremely difficult position due to the lack of arms and ammunition.

"General Josep 'Tito' Brozovich whose political view is generally despised, is still obstinately carrying on his guerrilla war against Germany. The 'Tito' movement originating in Croatia, has a Communistic character. Though the Serbs still entertain a sense of dependence on the Soviet Union, they have hitherto denounced Communism. Therefore, criticisms are being levelled against the Serbs of the guerrilla units of General 'Tito' who are fighting against the German army.

"All tragedies in Yugoslavia have been due to the severe conflicts between the Croats and Serbs. It is generally feared that the 'Tito' movement may eventually lead Yugoslavia into becoming a union of socialist republic. On the contrary, Yugoslavia appears to be desiring the establishment of a democratic nation amalgamating Serbia, Croatia, and Slovenia."

Fuehrer's Headquarters

May 5

Near Sebastopol, our planes attacked the enemy artillery emplacements and destroyed 26 trench mortars, while in aerial combats our fighters shot down 29 enemy aircraft.

East of the Rumanian Sereth, the Soviets attacked on a narrow front all day long in many successive waves but were beaten off by our troops in close collaboration with German and Rumanian planes and the enemy lost numerous tanks in the embittered fighting.

Last night, our bomber units attacked several enemy supply stations in northern Ukrainia. Southwest of Kovel, violent local enemy attacks supported by planes collapsed in the concentrated fire of our arms and the enemy suffered particularly heavy losses.

No major fighting took place in Italy apart from lively mutual reconnaissance and shock troop activity.

Minor enemy bomber formations dropped explosive and incendiary bombs on Budapest last night and four of the attacking machines were shot down.

American air formations raided the occupied western districts and northwestern Germany yesterday at daylight and 11 of their machines were downed.

British planes bombed Cologne and Mannheim last night.

64 Yankees Killed When Liberty Ship Bursts Off Alaska

Special

LISBON, May 5.—Another U.S. Liberty ship built at the Henry Kaiser shipyards has burst asunder on the high seas, according to the New York correspondent of the Times, London. He said that the ship was on its way to Alaska with a cargo of high explosives and 64 members of the crew of 80 were killed. The dispatch significantly added that examination of the wreckage showed that the sinking was not caused by fire or explosion.

TROUBLES AT HOME WORRYING BRITAIN

Press Openly Criticizes Government's Inefficiency in Handling National Problems

The British anxiety over the future of their country is daily mounting, according to a Berlin dispatch to the Mainichi dated May 3.

Because of insufficient Government measures, many difficult problems are cropping up and increasing in number. British newspapers and magazines are citing various difficult national problems in addition to severe criticisms of the Government's foreign policy, especially Britain's lukewarm attitude toward the United States and the Soviet Union.

Some newspapers in London have begun to frankly tell their readers that "there is a distinct sign of war-weariness in Britain." This tendency is especially noticeable among British laborers as is illustrated by the frequent strikes. According to various reports from London, strikes are mainly due to hunger brought about by insufficient distribution of foodstuffs.

The British weekly, Sphere, states that various tragedies of the present war are already clearly discernible on every Britisher's face. The magazine further points out that the moral standard of the people has been considerably lowered.

On the other hand, British newspapermen in the United States are strongly denouncing the United States' energetic diplomatic policies. The American diplomatic policy, in the opinion of the British, is serving to increase the imperialistic trend among the great American capitalists.

Rear-Admiral Edward L. Cochrane, Chief of the Bureau of Ships, once declared that "the United States would possess an unprecedentedly large navy after the war in order to safeguard international peace." Even in the absence of such a statement, it is true that Britain greatly fears that it may permanently lose its domination of the seas because of the constant increase in the construction of American warships.

The payment for commodities supplied to Britain by the United States in accordance with the Lend-Lease Act is also a source of worry to the British Government. President Roosevelt, who was Navy Undersecretary at the time of the first World War, is fully aware of the British attitude and therefore has no intention whatsoever of lending arms to Britain gratis.

British pride has been hurt by America's criticisms of Admiral Mountbatten's operations and it is reported that British correspondents stationed in the United States are highly indignant, asking why the Americans do not mention the British navy which is cooperating with the Americans in the Pacific offensive operations.

Furthermore, the British people are again realizing that the Soviet menace constitutes a grave danger to Britain. As the Soviet newspaper, Izvestia, commented recently, the political situation in Italy is marked by a difference of policies between the Soviet Union and the Anglo-American powers.

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REICH NAVY MAULS POWERFUL CONVOY

U-Boats Sink 8 Destroyers, 5 Transports in Fierce Arctic Ocean Clash

Domei

BERLIN, May 5.—A convoy bound from the Soviet Union for a British port was fiercely attacked by U-boats off Bear Island in the Arctic Ocean, according to a report received here.

Despite resistance by the very powerful escort, in which many carrier-borne planes participated, eight destroyers and escort vessels as well as five transports, totalling more than 30,000 tons were sunk. Two of the ships sank immediately after receiving torpedo hits while of the others, it is assumed that they were also destroyed following direct hits.

In this engagement, the young German commanders and the crew members of the undersea fleet gallantly stood their test, the report concludes.

Destroyer Sunk Daily
Special

BERLIN, May 5.—Thirty-five Anglo-American destroyers serving as convoy escorts were lost within 34 days, it was pointed out by Berlin naval circles.

This announcement was made in connection with the publication of the German war bulletin according to which the U-boats alone sank eight British and United States destroyers during the first four days of May, 1944.

It will be remembered that in April 27 Anglo American destroyers escorting convoys were sunk. In view of the numerous sinkings of Anglo-American units assigned to the task of protecting convoys, well-informed circles in Berlin speak of their destruction as according to a time-table because, in recent days, one Anglo-American destroyer has been successfully torpedoed every 24 hours.

15 FILIPINOS AWARDED ORDER OF THE TIRAD PASS

Domei

MANILA, May 4.—Addressing a public rally held this morning at Luneta Park on the occasion of the observance of Constabulary Day, President Jose P. Laurel stressed the importance of the role being played by the law and order forces in reconstructing the Philippines. He declared, "Members of the Philippine constabulary through the able performance of their duties are bringing about closer unity among the Filipino people, thereby ensuring prosperity and well-being of the new-born Republic."

The President urged the men of the constabulary to emulate the example of General Gregorio de Pilar, who was posthumously awarded the Military Order of the Tirad Pass for gallantry in action during the famous battle by that name against Americans in December 1899.

This morning's ceremonies were featured by the awarding of the Military Order of the Tirad Pass posthumously to 15 persons, including General del Pilar, and personally to Sergeant Sotero Esperon of the Sixth Company of the General Service Troops, who was leaning on crutches and occupied a distinguished place in the assemblage.

After the awarding of medals, the President distributed sums of money to wives and immediate relatives of the honorees.

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JAVA IS INCREASING FOODSTUFF OUTPUT

Domei

DJAKARTA, May 5.—With the object of further speeding up the development of larger farms throughout Java, a number of farms which formerly belonged to enemy nationals will be placed in charge of private companies.

In commissioning private concerns with the management of farms, the authorities will classify farms not by the products grown but by regions in which they are located, thereby concentrating farming operations.

Through the new system, a marked increase will be made in the production not only of foodstuffs, clothing and raw materials, but also such native products as quinine and cacao.

According to the plan, 22 industrial agricultural companies in Java, which are already engaged in the production of sugar, hemp, raw cotton, quinine and confectionery, will be selected to take charge of the farms and their development activities will be supervised by official inspectors. For better liaison among concerns, an association of the companies selected will be formed.

Meanwhile, to boost the production of foodstuffs for the current year, the Bureau of Agriculture of the local administration on May 2 announced plans for developing over 2,000 hectares of agricultural land.

Under this plan, approximately 10,000 hectares of paddy-fields and several thousand hectares of farm land will be newly developed, while more than 10,000 additional hectares of land will be made available for cultivation through improved drainage.

The announcement also revealed that various farm development projects are being speeded up, promising the completion of the paddy-field development by the end of October this year, development of farmland by August next year and small-scale drainage improvements by October this year. Also castor beans will be planted in newly-developed farmlands.

It is also reported that Governor Soetardjo Kartohadikoesoemo of Djakarta Province is contemplating the formation of a Farmers' Association for the improvement of cultural methods in order to step up the agricultural output of the Province.

The Governor declared that through this association, the Government aims at reaping two harvests per year or at least five harvests for a three-year period from thousands of hectares of arable land which is yielding only a single yearly crop.

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SUMO BOUTS BEGIN AT KORAKUEN RING

Ten-Day Tourney at Former Baseball Stadium Expected To Draw Record Crowds

The Korakuen baseball stadium in Koishikawa-ku, Tokyo, this morning became the setting of spectacular Sumo bouts with the start of the 10-day summer tournament, beginning at noon each day.

As in the past the tournament is expected to draw record crowds with the East and West camps, captained by Haguroyama and Terukuni, respectively, battling for honors and team points.

This is the first time in 36 years that the main professional Sumo tournament is being held outdoors instead of at the Kokugikan amphitheater in Ryogoku. Accordingly the Dai Nippon Sumo Association started construction of a special outdoor ring on May 1, which was completed Friday afternoon. The bouts will be cancelled in case of rain.

The East team under Haguroyama will be bolstered by Futabayama Yokozuna or Grand Champion, while the West team will have besides Terukuni, another Yokozuna in Akinoumi. It will be recalled that in the last tourney the present East camp triumphed over the West aggregation.

As wrestling was to the ancient Greeks and Romans, so is Sumo to Japanese sportsdom today for it is acclaimed as one of the national sports of Japan. Particularly at this time the Japanese people have been returning to the Spartan mode of living and Sumo, which calls for intense spiritual and physical training, draws the interest of the entire nation.

Unlike the Greco-Roman style of wrestling where the contestants apply their favorite holds as the full Nelson, half Nelson and hammer locks on the opponents, Japanese Sumo matches are conducted on a more conservative basis, rough tactics being strictly prohibited.

To the Japanese, this sport has been associated with martial arts from times immemorial. As a matter of fact, Sumo is recognized particularly by the Imperial Army and Navy as the proper spiritual and physical pastime for the Japanese race.

Indeed it can be truly said that Sumo is Japan's national sport. It is practiced by all classes throughout the country, in every town and village as a medium of physical training and development. Wherever boys and young men gather, they invariably turn to this sport for exercise and diversion.

Sumo is of very ancient origin, the first bout on record having taken place as early as 23 B.C. It appears to have been a regular function at the Imperial Court, the experts in the art being summoned to Kyoto, then the capital, every year from all parts of the country to wrestle for a prize.

Today, Japanese wrestling as a sport has attained a very high stage of perfection and refinement. In the course of its development, it has seen its ups and downs in popularity but the art of wrestling has always made steady progress.

It is true that Sumo appears to be somewhat similar to Western boxing and wrestling for at one time the method of competition was practically the same as in these two foreign sports. But now it is quite different in the manner of starting the match, giving the decision and in other details of the match.

This is particularly true of the spiritual element of the sport and the manner in which it is expressed. Today this spiritual element has become a force to dominate, inspire and unify the realm of Sumo. Consequently, at present, professional Sumo is enjoying the highest public favor more than at any time in its history since it adheres to the time honored spirit of Sumo as a national sport and makes efforts to work out its destiny on that basis.

As in the past, the hour which will bring the greatest excitement is mid-afternoon when the champions and near-champions enter the ring for their matches. Toward the closing days of the tourney, the undefeated and favorities will be pitted against one another and the outcome will hold the interest of the entire nation.

The leading wrestlers for this tournament as announced by the Sumo Association follows:

East Team

Haguroyama	"yokozuna"
Futabayama	"yokozuna"
Maedayama	"ozeki"
Saganohana	"sekiwake"
Nayoroiwa	"sekiwake"
Kamikaze	"komusubi"

West Team

Terukuni	"yokozuna"
Akinoumi	"yokozuna"
Sagamigawa	"sekiwake"
Masuiyama	"sekiwake"
Toyoshima	"komusubi"

Rise of New Philippines

FINIS: U.S. AGGRESSION . . . (II)

Fall of Corregidor

By B. P. JAVIER

"Corregidor Has Fallen"—these portentous words were on every Filipino's lips on that fateful day of May 7, 1942. After a long drawn-out siege, the mighty citadel that the Americans boasted of as impregnable at last failed to withstand the incessant pounding of Japanese heavy caliber bombs and long-range artillery. For a moment time stood still as the full implication of the news permeated the shocked senses of the people. Then, as the Stars and Stripes was hauled down from the last flagpole on the Island fortress, the signal started for a general hauling down of the mantle of American domination that enveloped the Philippines for over 40 years.

The fall of Corregidor, however, meant much more than the release of the Islands from American sovereignty. More significant than this, it meant the release of a flood-tide of nationalism long pent-up in the collective breast of the nation.

Before Corregidor fell, even before the inception of the War of Greater East Asia, patriotism and national consciousness were vague, much-misused terms among the Philippine public. They were prated about in schoolrooms and elucidated upon by self-appointed pundits who sought momentary attention to themselves by the preaching thereof. Today, resurrected out of the dormancy of isms, these terms are living, vital principles. Today they are the nation's watchword. To these ideals are now dedicated the country's unified endeavor.

U.S. Influence Eradicated

This change in the national attitude is traceable to Japan's salutary influence in the Islands. With the subjugation of Corregidor, the Imperial Japanese Forces not only eradicated the vicious American brand of domination over the Filipinos but also infused them with the spirit that marks Japan's every actuation.

The Japanese Military Administration during the occupation fashioned its principles and policies along the pattern of a reassertion of the native virtues and practices of the people. A return to the fold of the Orient, incessantly preached to the people both by the Military Administration and the Philippine Executive Commission, was, in the final analysis, a return to their right senses.

Over 40 years of American sway over the country was responsible for the deterioration in the national psychology. America taught the Filipinos not the patriotism of their heroes and martyrs of the past but the patriotism of plutocrats, not love of country but love of material wealth, not national consciousness but national servility to American machinations.

In a word, America sought to distract the people from forming a united front and infused them instead with the virus of disunion through delusion. The people were deluded with the rich promise of the American market, the superficial superiority of American civilization, the breadth and scope of the American state structure. Believing blindly in all these, they lost all initiative, all semblance of patriotic fervor so long as they could hold on to America's apron strings. If servility meant security, then there was virtue in servility—this was their logic. Hence, patriotism and nationalism were left for the fools and for politicians to rant about during election times.

Given Full Independence

A sorry state of affairs, indeed. Then came the war. The consequent national emergency forged the nation into a solid entity. With the complete overthrow of the American forces at Corregidor, the age-old aspiration of the people to attain an independent status surged to the surface. National consciousness attained maturity during the formative period of Japanese-Philippine relationship. It culminated in the grant of independence in October of last year.

With the revitalized spirit of national unity and solid kinship attained as never before in its history, the Philippines is intent on fanning it to greater intensity. Just how is this being done?

Of prime consideration is the renovated educational system. The study of national ethics is a main item in the curricula of public and private institutions of learning. Textbooks have been gone over to eliminate passages and points derogatory to the history and aspirations of the Filipinos. Efforts are being undertaken to revamp the method of instruction so as to stress lofty Filipino ideals and Oriental virtues. Being pared to a minimum are references to American and Occidental traditions and manners of life. Of course, several aspects of the more enlightened contributions of Western thought and culture are altogether too manifest and, therefore, allowed currency. However, emphasis is being placed on the traditional Filipino traits that underlie the native philosophy and morality.

Introduction of Tagalog, the national language, and of Nippon-go in the system of instruction is a propulsive force toward the realization of a common bond. The study of Tagalog will serve to foster the idea of identity of race, that of identity of Oriental peoples aspiring for common existence and common prosperity. English as a medium of expression will see its eclipse in the not far distant future.

Rizal Clubs Formed

A concerted effort to hold up the inspiring example of Filipino heroes and patriots to the youth is being pursued. Attention is constantly being drawn to their self-sacrificing love of country, their instinctive yearning for freedom, their untiring and indefatigable striving to promote their people's happiness and prosperity. "Live the Rizal Way" clubs are sprouting up among the different school populace. In this wise, the simple but transcendental virtues of honesty, simplicity, industry and unyielding devotion to duty are being inculcated in the hearts and minds of the future citizenry of the country.

Pursuing the same objective of infusing the people with a keener vision of their civic duty is the Kalibapi, the National Service Organization. Young and old, be he teacher, student, barber or banker, are members of this body. It aims to put into dynamic actuality what would otherwise be puerile efforts springing from bare precept. Today, the Kalibapi has set the whole nation on fire—the fire of ardent nationalism.

At this point mention should be made of the New Philippines Cultural Institute. Set up by the combined efforts of the Filipino and Japanese authorities in the Islands, it has trained a batch of energetic youth leaders and turned them out for unstinted service to the country. A second batch, presently undergoing rigid instruction, is being geared for the same mission. The Institute teaches a course in nation-building without parallel in the country's history. Nothing like it could ever have been attempted under the American administration, and the reason is obvious. The Institute preaches of Philippinism and Orientalism, things to be quashed the moment they reared their heads in the past. It advocates—unthinkable under the past regime—the chucking of materialism and individualism and the eradication of the deleterious influence of the West.

At this writing, the vast majority of Filipinos are highly conscious of their closely-knit unity, their identity of aspirations, their mutual problems and responsibilities. No longer is nationalism an empty virtue. It has become a soul-consuming passion pregnant with possibilities.

Of long and lasting memory, indeed, is the historic collapse of Corregidor. The signal that it was for the end of the Philippine campaign, it was also the signal for the beginning of a new era—that of a resurgent, assertive Philippinism revived and revitalized under the New Order.

MERGER ACCORD REACHED FOR 5 AGRICULTURE BANKS

Amalgamation Taking Place Since 1921 With Hypothec Bank of Japan

Agreement has been reached among the five remaining prefectural banks of agriculture and industry to merge with the Hypothec Bank of Japan and the Finance Ministry authorities have approved the step. The matter was announced in a statement issued by the Finance Vice Minister Saturday.

In 1921 a law providing for the merger of banks of agriculture and industry with the Hypothec Bank of Japan was legislated and up to 1938 some 41 banks of agriculture and industry had been dissolved. Thus, there have remained only five such banks respectively in Aichi, Ibaraki, Okayama, Kanagawa and Fukushima.

Finance Minister Sotaro Ishiwata had been urging these banks to amalgamate with the Hypothec Bank. As a result of negotiations among the executives and the banks, agreement has been reached to effect the merger, which is expected to take place some time in August.

As to the terms of the merger, the authorities concerned are still in consultation. In view of the favorable business the five banks have been enjoying the merger in all likelihood will be carried out on a parity basis. The agriculture and industry debentures that the five banks have issued, at present amounting to ¥104,000,000, are to be regarded as Hypothec debentures after the merger.

CORREGIDOR'S FALL HAILED BY VARGAS

Reduction of Fortress by Japanese Freed P.I., Says Ambassador in Radio Speech

On the second anniversary of the fall of Corregidor today, Philippine Ambassador Jorge B. Vargas to Japan, in a radio address, declared that the reduction of the vaunted stronghold of American power in the Philippines and East Asia had given an irresistible impetus to the process of reorientation and that the Filipinos had been freed not only from the political and military power of the United States of America but also from the oppressive burden of an inferiority complex which had possessed many Filipinos and which had bred in them an unjustified fear of the power of the Western nations.

The Ambassador said that the Filipinos had endeavored to achieve political unity, economic self-sufficiency, cultural reawakening and complete peace and order with the generous aid of the friend and ally of the Philippine Republic, the Japanese Empire, "the only true stabilizing power in East Asia."

The address by Ambassador Vargas follows:

On this the second anniversary of the fall of Corregidor I am glad of the opportunity offered by the Japan Broadcasting Corporation to address you once more from the capital of the mighty Japanese Empire where, upon commission of our illustrious President Dr. Jose P. Laurel, I have represented the Government and the People of the Republic of the Philippines for the past three months. I had originally intended mainly to review what has been accomplished since I last spoke to you in March but the events which have transpired, important as they have been for the solidification and strengthening of Nippon-Philippine relations, can be better appreciated against the background of the truly epochal transformation that has taken place in our country and in our people since and foreordained superior to any USAFFE two years ago today.

The fall of the vaunted stronghold of American power in the Philippines and East Asia gave, as you know, an irresistible impetus to the process of reorientation initiated by the occupation of Manila. When the Stars and Stripes fell down at Corregidor, many beliefs, errors and misconceptions went down with it. We were freed not only from the political and military power of the United States of America but also from the oppressive burden of an inferiority complex which possessed many Filipinos and which bred in them an unjustified fear of the power of the Western nations.

With the swift reduction of a modern fortress, equipped with all the weapons that science could devise and all the advantages that nature could afford, accomplished as it was by a handful of intrepid Japanese soldiers against heavy numerical and tactical odds, there was no longer any reason for any Filipino to believe that the United States of America was an all-powerful and invincible nation, or that any Western power or civilization was to be considered as the natural and foreordained superior of any Eastern power and culture.

There was no longer any reason to believe that the fate and destiny of the Philippines and the 18 million Filipinos had to be ultimately dependent upon and extangled with the designs and systems of government and economics of the Western hemisphere. The fall of Corregidor, just like the rest of the Philippine campaign to which it had provided a brilliant and decisive climax, had shown conclusively that the vast oceanic distances of the Pacific and the irreconcilable differences of color and culture, made it untenable and even futile for the Philippines and the Filipinos to depend on America for protection, prosperity or leadership.

And so both spiritual and material factors combined to compel us to make a reexamination of our situation and to discover and follow a reorientation of our attitudes and policies. That reorientation brought us into the company of our kindred Oriental nations in Greater East Asia under the leadership of the Japanese Empire. In pursuit of our new policies, we have endeavored to achieve political unity, economic self-sufficiency, cultural reawakening and complete peace and order. We cannot as yet declare that we have completely accomplished all of these objectives, but we can say that we are on our way to them with the generous and disinterested aid of our friend and ally, the Japanese Empire.

Already we have attained what countless generations of Filipinos failed to attain despite their uncounted sacrifices of blood, treasure and genius. We have proclaimed our independence and established our own sovereign Republic in full harmony with all the traditions and ideals of our race as enshrined in our Constitution.

Today we should remember that the fall of Corregidor two years ago made it possible for us to have an independence and a Republic totally different in nature and conditions from the independence and Republic we would have had otherwise. For our national sovereignty rests today, not on the doubtful guarantee of a neutrality pact or the equally doubtful protection of a distant Western nation of different race, culture and geographical and economic situation, but on the natural, logical, and unshakable security of an all inclusive alliance with the mighty Empire of Japan, the only true stabilizing power in East Asia, and of free, equal and honorable partnership with our kindred and neighboring Oriental nations in Greater East Asia.

A special mission to express the undying gratitude of the Republic of the Philippines for the assistance and recognition granted by the Empire of Japan to our national independence has just returned after successfully fulfilling its mission here in Tokyo. Composed as it was of some of the highest functionaries of our Republic under the brilliant leadership of Speaker Benigno S Aquino, it could not fail to make it crystal clear to the Imperial Japanese Government and to every subject of this vast Empire that the Republic of the Philippines cannot forget the duties of gratitude, honor and loyalty which bind it firm and fast to the Great Japanese Empire.

Indeed, as I declared in an address to a great gathering of Japan's economic, business and industrial leaders at a joint session of eight economic societies a few days ago, I believe that the Filipinos have already progressed from gratitude to conviction, that we have gone beyond the expression of thanks for favors received to a feeling of determination to achieve new and greater bounties through our own efforts, united with those of Japan and the other Oriental nations, that we have turned our eyes resolutely from the pleasant spectacle of Japan's generosity in the past to the inspiring vision of our unstinted collaboration in the future, and that our hands are no longer outstretched to ask; they grasp Japan's hands firmly in the clasp of heartfelt amity, all-out alliance and common fate.

Thus the fall of Corregidor, though it took place only two years ago and is in every way memorable, has already somewhat receded into the background of our consciousness; so many significant and far-reaching transformations have followed it. We have already grown to take for granted the general peace that fell after the surrender of the USAFFE. But we should not forget that a terrific conflict is still raging all about us and that peace may yet be broken. In concluding therefore permit me to bespeak my own sentiments and those of my staff here in Tokyo that we are united with you in spirit in spite of the distance between us. Whatever betide, we shall be at your side and you will be at ours. Together in common love and devotion to the Motherland, and in closest cooperation with our great friend and ally, the powerful Japanese Empire, let us face with determination whatever the future may bring, praying God to help and protect our country, our people, and our allies, and to bless and keep us all until final and complete victory is won.

Envoy Recalls Keen Competition Held With Koga for First Place in Saga School

As classmates during their middle school days, Japanese Ambassador to Thailand, Teiji Tsubokami, and Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, late Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet of the Imperial Navy, used to vie for first place in their class, reports the Asahi.

Even during his middle school days, he was a student who always had an unerring perspective of final outcomes through a maze of deceptive trivialities.

Recalling his school days with the late Fleet-Admiral, Ambassador Tsubokami stated:

"Back in 1898, he and I used to sit side by side in our classroom at the Saga Middle School. Our middle school comradeship lasted for six years, and since then, our friendship has continued for over 40 years.

"He was a very taciturn youth and was especially interested in martial arts. I think he had first rank in judo at the time of his graduation. From the very first his aspirations were for the Navy. He used to tell me often that he, too, would join the 'Chishinkai,' an organization of our school alumni who had entered military service. Surely enough, overcoming all difficulties, he passed the stiff entrance examinations of the Naval Academy with flying colors.

"Whenever I was sick and absent from classes, he always offered to let me use his notebooks. I used to feel the warmth of his friendship keenly as I copied his neatly written notes. He was never satisfied until he had probed a matter to its basic fundamentals. At times, he would embarrass the instructor with the penetrating nature of his questions.

"Until our school adopted a uniform when we were fifth year students, he used to wear a Kokura-checked kimono and a fencing hakama. He would clatter through the streets of Saga wearing big, clumsy geta. When it rained or snowed, he would go barefooted.

"Speaking of going barefooted—one cold winter day when we were all huddled inside, unwilling to go out for our gymnastics, he dashed barefooted into the frozen school grounds shouting, 'Come on! We've got to uphold the tradition of the Hagakure warriors!'

"He was a very bright student. Although it may sound funny for me to say it, he and I used to vie for first place in our class. He was a good-looking youth, but his dignity was so unassailable that not a single nickname was invented for him.

"In January last year, he made an unexpected call at my home in Shibuya. I tried to persuade him to stay for supper, but he firmly refused to do so, saying: 'I cannot stay away from Yokosuka!' In the end, I accompanied him to Yokosuka. That was our last meeting."

NEW CEREAL PRICES SET TO SPEED UP DELIVERY

Those Delivered Above Quota Will Be Awarded With Special Premiums

As a measure to expedite the delivery of wheat, barley and naked barley by farmers, the Government at Friday's session of the Cabinet fixed new prices for such cereals as are to be delivered, it was announced by the Board of Information Saturday.

The new delivery system thus decided on for the current year follows in principle the special measures adopted for encouraging the delivery of rice. A delivery quota is fixed for each village and the surplus remaining after delivery may be consumed or held as each village desires, as in the case of rice. For all wheat, barley or naked barley delivered in excess of the quota premiums are to be awarded by way of encouragement at the rate of ¥11 per koku for wheat and naked barley, ¥7.50 for barley.

The quotas under the new system are to be applied initially to the Tohoku and Hokkaido on May 7, at the same time with production and delivery quotas for rice, and then extended to other parts of the country by regional blocs. The Agriculture and Commerce Minister has stated that a separate consideration would be given the problem of wheat and barley sown in the fall of this year.

SHINTARO OHASHI, 82, DIES

Member of Upper House and Chairman of Brewery Firm

Shintaro Ohashi, 82, a member of the House of Peers and chairman of the board of directors of the Dai-Nippon Brewery Company, died of bronchitis at his home in Kojimachi at 11 p.m. on Friday.

The Ohashi Library on Kudan, Kojimachi-ku, was founded by Mr. Ohashi, who was a pioneer in the establishment of private libraries in Japan. He was elected member of the House of Representatives in 1902 and appointed a member of the House of Peers in 1921 by Imperial nomination. He was also active in the business world, being connected with many of the outstanding Japanese firms.

Funeral services will be held on May 9 from 1 p.m. at the Tsukiji Honganji.

New Advisers Picked

Dr. Yoshiaki Hatta, former Transportation and Communications Minister, Vice-Admiral Ken Terashima, former Minister of the now defunct Communications Ministry and Hachiro Ohashi, former Communications Vice-Minister, were appointed advisers to the Transportation and Communications Ministry, it was announced on Saturday. The adviser system was previously set up in the Cabinet and also in the Finance and Greater East Asiatic Affairs Ministries as well as in the Foreign Office.

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INDIANS HERE PAY TRIBUTE TO KOGA

Pass Resolution Reaffirming Their Pledge to Crush Anglo-U.S. Enemies

To express their grief at the death in active duty of Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, and to reaffirm their resolve to carry on their freedom-fight, in firm cooperation with the Imperial Japanese Forces, the Indian representatives in Japan assembled at the premises of the Indian Independence League, at 5, Tameike, Akasaka, Tokyo, at 2 p.m. Saturday. Representatives of the Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka and Kobe branches of the League were present at the meeting. After silent prayers for the repose of the soul of the late Fleet-Admiral, a message of condolence from Rash Behari Bose, Supreme Advisor to the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, was read.

The meeting adopted the following resolution which was personally presented by the representatives of the League to the Navy Ministry:

"We Indians in Japan have been profoundly grieved to learn of the death in active duty of Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet, while nobly upholding the brilliant traditions of the Imperial Navy.

"We hereby resolve to pay our humble homage to the heroic soul of Fleet-Admiral Koga, and tender our profound and respectful condolences to the Imperial Navy and the Japanese Nation, on the sad bereavement.

"While grieving at the loss of the great naval hero, we feel profoundly inspired by the gallant heroism and self-sacrifice of the late Fleet-Admiral, symbolizing the deathless spirit of the Imperial Navy which is dealing annihilative blows on our common enemies on every front.

"While praying for the repose of the great naval hero, we reaffirm our solemn pledge to carry on our freedom fight, under the command of our beloved leader, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, fighting shoulder to shoulder with the invincible Nippon Forces, until our enemies the Anglo-Americans, have been completely smashed on the soil of India, and until the final victory has been scored against our common enemies, thereby ensuring the freedom, peace and prosperity of all the peoples of Asia."

PRINCIPINI WILL EXPLAIN

Italian Residents of Tokyo and Yokohama to Meet

With the purpose of explaining the historical importance of the recent conversations between Il Duce of Fascist Italy and the Fuehrer of Germany, which had a vast repercussion on the spirit of the Italian population, especially among the younger generation ever ready to defend to the last the sacred soil of the country, a meeting of all Italians in Tokyo and Yokohama and a number of Japanese and German friends will be held next Tuesday, May 9, at 3 p.m. in the Italian Embassy.

On that occasion Colonel Principini will explain the meaning and the importance of the recent meeting between Fuehrer Hitler and Premier Mussolini as the sign of a new phase of an ever more intimate relation between Italy and Germany.

Classified Ads.

Advertisements, or replies to the same by POSTCARD, should be TYPEWRITTEN and accompanied by the nationality, name and address of the sender in Japanese.

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PROF. Dr. S. Miyashita. Eye Specialist. English and German spoken. Hours, 2:30-5 p.m. Weekdays only. [illegible] Sogo Building. Kyobashi tram crossing. Tel. Kyobashi 56-4464.

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Four Years Since Dunkirk

Four years ago, in this same month of May, British expeditionary forces in Europe were withdrawn in all haste from Dunkirk. Not until much later, however, did the full purport of the British perfidy involved in this ignominious withdrawal become clear. Even at the time, however, though the British armies retreated from Europe in considerable confusion, abandoning allies, equipment and honor on the field of battle; though this defection necessarily condemned Britain's French comrades-in-arms to certain defeat; Dunkirk was not looked upon as a defeat in Britain. On the contrary it was, and is, celebrated as a glorious British victory! Yet, how could Dunkirk, where France's fate was sealed, be celebrated as a victory for Britain, unless the defeat and destruction of France had some not inconsiderable part in Britain's plans?

Since the days when William the Conqueror planted the Norman flag on British soil, Britain and France have been engaged in a more or less constant struggle with each other for mastery of Europe. Germany is a relatively late-comer on the European scene, which Britain attempted to use as an instrument to offset French power as readily as France has been made a British instrument to keep Germany in check. In British power politics, indeed, an over-powerful France is by no means less objectionable than a too strong Germany, while it has ever been Britain's traditional policy to prevent at whatever cost any form of inter-European unity centered around either of these powers.

After the last war, however, although Britain acquired the greater part of Germany's colonies and overseas possessions, it took her some time to recover from her exhaustion in Europe. In the meantime disarmed Germany was down and out. Russia, the fourth and latest contestant for power in Europe, was still in the throes of revolution. Versailles, therefore, resulted in such temporary predominance of France, whose war machine was still intact, as to amount to virtual French hegemony in Europe. Even the League of Nations, wherein so many smaller nations gravitated around predominant France, served to heighten French power, in spite of the plural vote on its councils cleverly obtained by Britain through the separate voice secured for each of her dominions. This French triumph was, however, brief. Britain lost no time in seeking restoration of the lost power balance in Europe by checking every French move to keep Germany down. Britain blocked French activities in the Ruhr, refused to countenance French action against reoccupation of the German Rhine districts by German troops, and made a naval treaty with Germany to offset French preponderance.

German revival was, however, incomparably swifter and more complete than anything British calculations contemplated. But not until the influence of resurgent Germany far outstripped that of France in the continent of Europe did Britain drop the policy of appeasement which had always been aimed less at helping a fallen enemy than in keeping Britain's victorious ally in check. Not until Germany bade fair to succeed in unifying Europe in the new order, for its permanent peace and prosperity, did Britain fling all her weight to the French side of the balance. At the same time she enlisted American aid in the situation which had so suddenly gone beyond control by power balance alone and which made war imperative for Britain if she wished, as she has always wished, to impede the now otherwise inevitable European unity.

Return of the severed German territories detained by Poland might well have meant peace in our time. But Britain and America willed otherwise. With a cynicism all but unrivalled in history, Britain and America, themselves committed to the outlawry of war, between them induced Poland, whom both well knew neither could defend, to throw down the gauntlet to her powerful neighbor. Poland, however, went under in a brief two weeks, and it looked as though the unification of Europe might proceed even faster through the war Britain had sought than in the peace Germany would have preferred. Agents of disruption were then sought in such countries on the fringe of German influence as Holland, Greece, Norway and Yugoslavia to combat the progressive forces working there for constructive European unity. These Anglo-American agents eventually succeeded in embroiling each of these countries in the war, though it is difficult to see what national advantage any of them looked to obtain from offering themselves as a sacrifice to Anglo-American power politics.

It was towards France, however, that the most consummate British cynicism was displayed. With France, Britain played a veritable sharper's game of "heads I win, tails you lose", when she encouraged France, whom she herself rendered all but strategically defenseless by earlier support of Germany, to join her in the path of war. The cynical British calculation is nevertheless quite clear. If the strength of France had still been sufficient to keep the German legions in check, France might bleed herself again for Britain, and France and Germany once more mutually exhaust themselves for Britain's greater glory. On the other hand, in the event of a German break-through—which disposition of British troops in Europe in such a way as to facilitate their prompt withdrawal indicates was clearly anticipated—Britain's plans were plainly laid in advance to compensate any loss of power in Europe by increased world power through robbing temporarily impotent France of her overseas possessions.

Did not Britain immediately following Dunkirk turn to France with an offer to incorporate France and all her colonies and outlying territories into the British Empire? When France not unnaturally found this disingenuous offer suspect and turned it down, did not Britain and America jointly or severally nevertheless subsequently occupy Madagascar by force, blockade Martinique, destroy the French fleet at Oran, station Anglo-American troops in Syria, and unlawfully invade and occupy all France's Pacific island and African continental possessions? Was it not furthermore the presence of Japanese troops in French Indo-China, for joint Franco-Japanese defense of that territory, which directly motivated the asset-freezing, attempted economic throttling, and oil embargo instituted by Britain and America against Japan? Neither Britain nor America could have found the slightest occasion to look askance at the presence of these troops in Indo-China, with the full consent and approval of the French Government, to help preserve tranquillity there, were it not that aggressive aims of their own in that French colony had thereby been frustrated. Does not the fact that removal of these troops was nevertheless made the first and absolute prerequisite of all American negotiations with Japan tell its own illuminating tale?

Four years after Dunkirk Anglo-American duplicity towards France, as towards Poland, Greece, Yugoslavia, and all the other worn or discarded tools of their world domination scheme, emerges crystal clear. On the eve of the second front British exhortations to the French to rally to their aid may be expected in endless succession. Much British ink will doubtless also be spilt in what must surely be a vain attempt to convince France and the world that Britain aims at France's liberation. But nothing can alter the fact that during the four year since Dunkirk, all France's colonial possessions with the sole exception of Indo-China have somehow passed under the thumb of Britain and America. Nothing, moreover, can restore the French architectural treasures gutted, or bring back to life the countless French civilians murdered, by the bombs of France's perfidious one-time ally. It may also be difficult for British propagandists to make the French forget how Britain procured French defeat by her "glorious" withdrawal at Dunkirk when her troops were on French soil with French consent, or convince them that Britain is pursuing anything but her own interests and designs without the smallest concern for France when she now proposes to land her troops once more at Dunkirk, or equivalent point, and invade and blast the French mainland, if she can, without any by your leave.

After these four revealing years following Dunkirk, it must be increasingly difficult for Britain to find fresh French dupes still so blinded by ancient hates or so swayed by personal ambitions as to lend themselves readily to further destruction of once mighty France by the perfidious ex-allies who have so cynically robbed, ruined and betrayed her. Those Frenchmen already within the Anglo-American camp must themselves be restively aware that the days of French preponderance in Europe are gone forever if Anglo-American schemes in Europe should prosper, and that the best France could hope for under such conditions is to exist on sufferance, an Anglo-American satellite, an eternal battle ground between Britain and Germany.

Within France or without there must indeed be few thinking Frenchmen who do not realize four years after Dunkirk that only in inter-European unity, only in cooperation with Germany for establishing the new regional order in Europe free from all Anglo-American intervention, could France ever hope to regain her proper place in European or world affairs or the peace of Europe be secured.

Cordell Hull on America's Foreign Policy

By Japonicus

IV

The Postwar World

Mr. Hull builds a castle in the air regarding the organization of the postwar world. We call his project a castle in the air because it is based on extremely dubious assumptions, namely, the unconditional surrender of Japan and Germany, the unity of purpose and action among America, Britain and the Soviet Union, and consent by the American Senate. Mr. Hull attaches special importance to the unity of action of the three Powers for a future organization of peace and world economic prosperity. This "unity of action" would necessarily involve a revolutionary departure from America's traditional policy as expressed in the Jeffersonian dictum, "Peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations; entangling alliances with none." And under the American constitutional system and practice, any plan necessitating a political alliance in peace time is not likely to be so easily swallowed by American senators. To avoid this difficulty Mr. Hull informs us that he has decided to have a preliminary consultation with the representatives of the bi-partisan group to be appointed by the chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, and with members of the House of Representatives. Yet, it is doubtful whether this new procedure will prove successful in mollifying the senatorial one-third.

A lengthy statement by Mr. Hull on the necessity of united action by the three Powers rather suggests that there is developing at present serious disunity among them. He indicates there are thirty boundary questions awaiting decision, including the thorny one on Poland. And the competitive maneuvering for position now going on in western and southern Europe, North Africa and western Asia will be a foretaste for America of the inter-anti-Axis disunity after the war. This disunity necessarily destroys one of the assumptions on which Mr. Hull's project is formulated.

The castle itself seems to be still in the course of construction, and its bare outlines only are indicated in Mr. Hull's address as well as in the State Department Memorandum. Rooseveltian "freedom from fear" is to be guaranteed by solemn obligations of the member nations not to use force against each other and against any nation except under pre-arrangement, by provision for the maintenance of an adequate international force to preserve peace and for institutions and procedures for bringing it into action, and by provision for an international court and machinery for the settlement of controversies of a political character—the same old League technique with, however, stronger teeth in it with which to bite, gnaw, and masticate the "aggressors." "Freedom from want" is to be guaranteed by adopting measures to stimulate and expand production by freeing international commerce from excessive restrictions, by making arrangements for the investment of capital, by stabilizing currency, by facilitating communications and transport by air and by sea and by making arrangements for the improvement of labor standards and the standards of health and nutrition.

It seems unlikely that this American political and economic planning for the postwar world exactly suits the requirements either of Britain or the Soviet Union. The harmony and unity of action so envisaged is probably an empty dream. Wily European politics may come to disgust the American people or give a warning to more than one-third of American senators, compelling America to return to her old ways. But let that pass, and let us examine the American project in an academic spirit. So far as Mr. Hull's economic planning is concerned, we raise little objection. Taken at its face value, it agrees with the economic regime visualized in the Greater East Asia Joint Declaration. It should, however, be pointed out that free and untrammeled commerce and the development of natural resources should be based on the principle of strict reciprocity and should not be unilateral as in America's "Open Door" policy for China. It should not signify a return to the 19th Century laissez-faire economy which in its international aspect was synonymous with economic imperialism accompanied by colonial or semi-colonial exploitation.

Like its Versailles prototype, Mr. Hull's political planning is marred at its very outset by war psychology. It is conceived in terms of "aggressors" and "peace-loving" nations, terms which every intelligent person knows is war-propaganda stuff. This dichotomy should, indeed, be anathema to the Anglo-Saxon countries, for an impartial historian might pronounce that the American Republic and the British Empire are the historical products of a series of aggressions. Be that as it may, peace planning conceived with such prejudices is doomed to failure. Planning which involves the future welfare of all mankind needs to be designed with a philosophic calm and a broader historic vision.

An international court of justice and special machinery for the settlement of political disputes may be beneficial, provided that adequate provision is made for guaranteeing an impartial and sympathetic treatment. But the conception of an international force for the suppression of aggressive nations is fantastic. At the present stage of human development, no machinery nor procedure could be devised to safeguard the impartial operation of such international force. For its successful operation it must postulate an almighty world state whose authority can disregard the sovereignty of states, great or small. It is chimeric to think that America will be ready to relinquish her sovereignty or that Americans, Britons, or Soviets can be divested of their national prepossessions and prejudices. As it is, the question as to who is to be labelled "aggressors" will be decided by a balance of national interests and prejudices. Such a decision may remind one of Lowell's lines. "Truth forever on the scaffold, wrong forever on the throne." Human history is dynamic and nations will rise and fall according to their merits or demerits, and changes and adjustments are constantly brought about through conflicts between nations. It is wise, to be sure, for other nations to conciliate and make such changes as smooth as possible without any discredit being cast on either party. When war occurs, it is a part of discretion to localize it as much as possible. The international force, in the nature of things, would operate with partiality and it would encounter antagonism and opposition, and whenever such opposition is offered by a great Power, it will necessarily lead to a world war.

The true path to world peace, as the Greater East Asia Joint Declaration indicates, is to give every nation that which is due. Nations differ in race and color, in political and religious creeds, and in their cultural and economic development. These differences often give rise to frictions and conflicts. Peace can be attained only by reconciliation and adjustment of conflicting interests, by amelioration of antagonisms through removal of the causes of national discontent in a spirit of justice and toleration. Such antagonisms and conflicts may also be minimized by increasing international cultural exchange and by mutual cooperation in the spiritual and moral elevation of mankind.

Planning which is designed to keep world peace by means of an international force reveals a lamentable lack of historic realism. It begins at the wrong end. May we not also confess that we can clearly see symptoms of megalomania, of an inordinate ambition for world domination?

(End)

HASUDA ICHIGO'S CHIVALRY

Misconception Regarding Mito Samurai Cleared

By A Special Contributor

Foreigners who have treated of the pre-Meiji period have been accustomed to represent the Mito samurai who attacked and slew Ii Kamon-no-Kami in 1859 as brutal and savage assassins, ruthlessly regardless of life, and callously fierce and ferocious.

What they really were can be gathered from an article published some sixty years since in a periodical called The Chrysanthemum. In its monthly issues for 1881 and 1882 there appeared a series of papers (by "Shinchi") entitled "The Chivalry of Old Japan"—and among them was one which incorporated the last letter of one of these samurai. It is worth reproducing, for The Chrysanthemum had among its regular contributors many learned authorities, so we may take the translation to be correct and idiomatic.

The Chivalry of Old Japan

By Shinchi

An illustration of the later chivalric character of old Japan is seen in the pathetic story of Hasuda Ichigo. As the old house of Tokugawa decayed and neared its fall, signs of social dissolution and political anarchy appeared in all classes and in all parts of the country. Fanatical factions, bloody feuds and dark assassinations ruled the day. Under these circumstances the growing enthusiasm of certain classes of young samurai carried them almost to the verge of madness, leading them to acts full of heroic daring and self-sacrifice, of true civilization. Nor had they a clear perception of the trend of events,—no insight into the fateful future. Eighteen of these loyal, patriotic, royalistic fanatics, belonging mostly to the Prince of Mito, an indignant opponent of the opening of the country to foreign intercourse, formed a conspiracy and assassinated the Shogun's powerful but hated prime minister Ii Kamon-no-Kami, they considering him to be the enemy of the Mikado and a bane to the true interests of the country. After accomplishing the bloody deed, a few escaped but were afterwards arrested. Some committed suicide or were slain on the spot. The rest boldly presented themselves to the officials for arrest. Among these latter was Hasuda Ichigo, a young samurai of Mito, who may be taken as a typical samurai of the feudal days. After the assassination and arrest, Hasuda wrote the following letter to his mother, to whom he was passionately attached, and sent it to her as his last will and testament.

"To My Beloved Mother:

"I am very glad to know, O mother, that you and sister are well and hearty. On the morning of the third day of the third month, I, in company with seventeen others of similar purpose, put an end to the life of Ii Kamon-no-Kami. After we had accomplished our object, a few of us presented ourselves for arrest before the assistant minister Wakizaka. The same night I was carried to the mansion of Prince Hosokawa; thence again on the 9th I was transferred to the mansion of Prince Honda, where I am still confined. As you are aware, Ii was a most vicious and wicked minister. Above all he was known to be the most inveterate opponent of the interests of our liege Lord. It was he who persecuted Ando Tatewaki, the learned Kayone, and many others of high repute, compelling them to commit harakiri, or drove them to madness in hideous imprisonment, sent them to distant island exile or executed them outright. For the sake, therefore, of the country, I united with the other assassins, and we accomplished our aim. I hope you will rejoice over the manly behaviour of your son. In the fight on that occasion I think I was inferior to no one. I received a wound of two inches in length on the right shoulder, and two three-inch cuts on the arms. They are now nearly healed. The trial by the judges is nearly finished, and I shall, in a few days at most, be executed. It is very wrong for me to die before you, without paying to your memory the grateful tribute due to the surpassing kindness and love which you have lavished upon me during the twenty-eight years of my past life. Pardon me, dear mother, this ungrateful conduct. When I think of your condition, it seems to me that there can be none more unfortunate than you. Dear father died when you were only thirty years old, and you, dear mother, took the care of your several children upon yourself alone. Notwithstanding our wayward and disobedient dispositions and conduct, and manifold cares which were sufficient to have crushed even a strong man, you have brought us up. Oh that I could describe your boundless love! Among your children I am your only son, and after having received so long the benefit of your kindness, during the last three or four years I began to be your consolation and support. But since the year before last, our liege lord, and of course his retainers with him, have been continually involved in disastrous events, to your great grief. Thus I can well imagine the great sorrow and distress which the news of this occurrence will cause you. I should have told you of my intentions before I left you, but I was afraid that you would not give me your permission. I trust you will forgive my fault in this regard. As to my fate, there is no hope for my life. I am expecting the call to execution every moment. Perhaps I shall be crucified. I beg you to get a good husband for my sister, and regarding him as myself, spend the rest of your days in peace. Man's life is limited. Some live when they are expected to die, others die when they are expected to live. And my early death before yours is perhaps, according to the Buddhist tenet, the fatal result of some previous existence. If it is not so, one's existence would not be so easily ended. During the tenth month of last year I was taken ill of a dangerous disease. If I had then died I should not have been able to have taken part in the late events. I think, however, that it is better to die for the sake of one's country than to die of sickness. O mother, be consoled with these thoughts, and remember that this is essentially a fickle world. Believe your child's sincerity."

"To My Sister:

"Your kindness to me is like the ocean, deep; lofty as mountain peak. I had hoped to have done something for you in my life-time. But now it proves to have been all in vain to have cherished such hopes. I am very sorry to bring this unexpected distress upon you. As far as I am concerned, all is over. Only do you take care of our dear mother. I have doubled my unfilial conduct toward her by forsaking her thus. You may perhaps also be angry with me for it. But remember that no selfish purpose urged me to act as I have done. It was for the cause of my liege lord and for the welfare of the country. Let it be well settled in your mind that my fate is fixed and inevitable. And do you exert yourself to make up in filial duties toward mother, even that also which I have failed to accomplish. If you will do so, my great gratitude will reach you from under the shadow of the grass-blades."

On the first of the fourth month he wrote his mother again as follows:—"I write this letter in tears to take a last farewell and ask your forgiveness for thus dying before you. The days are gradually lengthening and I often wonder how you are getting along. I am very anxious about your health, dear mother. As my end approaches my thoughts are constantly occupied with you, and I feel as if my bones, yes, my whole frame, were crushed and broken. I am sure you will be filled with sorrow even to heart-rending at the thought of my approaching fate. With these thoughts in my mind how can I help weeping? But please remember that it was all done for the cause of righteousness, loyalty, and filial piety."—Besides these he left a number of other letters, all breathing the same spirit of magnanimity, self-denial, and the affecting tenderness of a noble heart. His poems, both in Chinese and Japanese, evince in every line a striking and profound regard for parent and for country.

A 'Diplomatic Dieppe'

Bitter Defeat Experienced by U.S. and Britain as Result Of Economic Pact Concluded With Spain

By OUR FOREIGN EDITOR

The recent conclusion of an agreement between Spain and the Anglo-Americans was preceded by protracted diplomatic negotiations. Ever since the ban was placed on the exportation of petroleum to Spain by the Anglo-American governments, the relations between that country and the United States and Britain entered a critical stage, the former standing pat on its policy of neutrality and the latter attempting to drag her into their own camp in the present war. In the meanwhile the Anglo-Americans have been carrying on their customary intrigue and plotting against Spain regarding the various problems outstanding between the two parties.

Spain, perceiving that the existing war situation was not developing in favor of the anti-Axis group, was maintaining its independent attitude against the outrageous attitude and policies of the Anglo-Americans, despite the various forms of pressure which had been brought to bear upon her. The United States government in concert with the British government has been manipulating in order to make Spain sever diplomatic relations with Germany.

When American Undersecretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr. met British Secretary for Foreign Affairs Anthony Eden in order to discuss and adjust various problems, the Spanish question undoubtedly was one of such problems. However, no definite agreement was reached between them at the London Conference regarding the solution of this problem because of difference in their views. The foremost reason for this disparity between the Anglo-American nations was the fact that Britain depended on Spain for the supply of important war materials such as iron ores, potash, pyrites and Britain realized that if Spain was driven to join the war the supply of these indispensable war materials to her would be greatly hampered while she would gain hardly anything therefrom, thus disclosing the weakness of a declining nation such as she is. Against this weak attitude of Britain, the United States has been bringing pressure and placed Spain in a qualm and by banning the exportation of such daily necessaries as food provisions and oil, attempted to induce her to abandon her policy of neutrality. However, Britain was irrevocably opposed to the high-handed policy of the United States, advocating a policy of mollification in relations with Spain. Because of this diplomatic disparity, there were reports circulated that the Washington government had withdrawn itself from negotiations with Spain in concert with Britain.

Then the critical relations between Spain and the Anglo-Americans which had been reported to be in critical conditions since last February reached a new turn with the announcement by the Foreign Office of the Spanish Government on May 2 regarding the conclusion of an economic agreement between Spain and the Anglo-American nations. The importance of the newly concluded agreement lies in the fact, as stated by the official communique of the Spanish Government, that the pact is "based on understanding concerning the position of the Spanish Government and existing realities." The foregoing basic understanding signifies that the neutral stand of Spain is wholly unshaken and the term "existing realities" suggests the great difficulty of the Anglo-American nations to gain victory in the war.

Demands Rejected

Thus, the outrageous and inhuman demands made by the Anglo-Americans regarding the nationals of the Axis nations in Spain have been rejected and the Anglo-Americans pledged to respect Spain's neutrality and the interests of her related countries with the Spanish Government. Moreover, the Anglo-American demand for the ban on the exportation of wolfram ores to Germany failed to materialize because of the staunch attitude assumed by Spain in her independent trade policy.

The Anglo-American gains in the recent trade agreement with Spain are highly insignificant as indicated by the following: the evacuation of the Blue Legion, which actually is of little significance; the release of some of the Italian vessels held in Spanish territory and the pledge taken by Spain that the question of the release of the Italian fleet will be placed before the international mediation court; and the promise of the United States to send petroleum to Spain in return for a certain reduction in the amount of goods to be exported to Germany.

The United States has naturally shown a peevish attitude regarding the substance of the new economic agreement. The American State Department stated in its official statement on May 2 that "the recent measure is based on the urgent desire of the British Government," thereby indicating its dissatisfaction for having been dragged by Britain to accept the compromise with Spain.

Ever since the Anglo-Americans began to exert pressure on Spain, it was these aggressors themselves who were placed in a fix rather than their victim, and this is clearly shown by the public statements issued concerning the economic agreement. The fact is that the United States never had any confidence in its overbearing attitude toward Spain. Although Eden declared in Parliament on May 2 with reference to the agreement with Spain that "a satisfactory result has been attained," the United States is evidently highly dissatisfied. Thus, the disunity of the Anglo-Americans came to be manifested in their policy of political invasion against Spain. They have tasted bitter defeat in what should be termed as "the diplomatic Dieppe" by concluding the recent economic pact. Praise is certainly due to Chief of State Francisco Franco and Foreign Minister Jordana, both of whom stood firm and unafraid in upholding the sovereign rights of their country so successfully against the Anglo-American imperialists.

Fruits of Wisdom

Success has a great tendency to conceal and throw a veil over the evil deeds of men.—Demosthenes.

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The poorest education that teaches self-control is better than the best that neglects it.—Anon.

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Peace is rarely denied to the peaceful.—Schiller.